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April 17, 1979

To: H. Alex[illegible] Assistant Secretary for Overseas Consular Services

Thru: Mr. Oshe[illegible] Chief ARA/EX

From: Charles H. Hyman, Rtired U.S. Representative, Dover A.F.B.

Subj: Guyana Project Report No. 16

Media Leak Itm on Body Movement to Dover

Transmitted separately by telecopy is a news clipping from this morning's "Morning News" of Wilmington. It seems that all pertinent details of the well-guarded secret have been revealed by Jonestown. I suspect that by the end of the day word will have fleshed nation-wide. The Department may want to take the above into consideration in its plans to issue a press release on Monday.

A.F.Base Information Office Request Concerning Press Release

The Base Information Office has requested that I ask the Department if it would be possible to have the press release given out earlier than next Monday. Even one work-day earlier, i.e., Friday a.m. April 20th would be of great help. I was asked to give the following reasons: (a) Dover AFB Info Office needs as much lead time as possible to make necessary arrangements for any press who will want to cover the departure of the first remains, i.e. telephones for press center, bus transportation from the center to the holding area, arranging for escort personnel to accompt the media while on the AF Base, (b) If the public announcement is not made until Monday and the first bodies move on Wednesday morning, we will be back in the "crisis management" situation again as we were when the first bodies arrived, (c) The Info Office has other tasks to perform in addition to working on the Guyana project and the more lead time the better, (d) Press coverage throughout the Guyana operation has been, for the most part, positive toward the U.S. Government and the State Department in particular. We would like it to remain that way and feel that adequate notice to the media would assure this positive coverage.

I would appreciate being advised as to what response I may give to the Information Office.

Transportation Manifest Assigned

Being transmitted separately by telecopy is a sample of the Guyana Transportation Manifest which I suggest be used. To save space for purposes of sending by telecopy I have shown only the top half of page one and the bottom half of page two. In drawing this I have used two color long sheets of paper size 8½" x 13". - that is, page one and page two to each set of 50 names - with 50 names to a trunk. Each page is numbered and the heading on page 2 is the same as on page one. Page 2 has spaces for the necessary signatures. If the Department approves of this design, please advise by phone and I will have the master copies (which, of course, are much clearer) xeroxed. If you have no objection, I would like to have the sets commercially xeroxed because the A.E. Dick machines here on the base are hopelessly inadequate and produce unsatisfactory results. Please advise.

Funeral Companies Desire to Bring Bodies Back to the Base

As stated in Memo No. 12 of April 4, 1975, Mr. Ambrose requested that he be allowed to return two bodies, Tom Fly and Dick Sly (Guyana celebrities). I advised them that the Department could not receive them back. Mr. Ambrose did not take it too well. He stated he will try to have the next-of-kin take the bodies as originally promised. As to what Mr. Ambrose will do if he finds he is stuck with the bodies I do not know.

The Stevenson Funeral Home also has one body - that of Margaret James. I gave him the same advice. He likewise did not take it too well.

For the Department's Info: While neither funeral director would come right out and say it, I detected the possibility of the above two cases becoming Congressionals if it looks like all other bodies will leave the Base and the funeral directors are unable to move the above-mentioned three bodies.

Post Mortuary Contract

Mr. Earl Ford, who I understand has a mortuary contract with the Air Force Base, stopped in momentarily yesterday to ask the name of my chief on the Secretary level. I gave him the name of Mr. Alan Glen. Mr. Ford did not go into any details other than to say that he, or his attorney, was planning on writing a letter to him. Mr. Ford may or may not be under the impression that he is entitled to move all the bodies off the Base. I did not go into any details with him.

Updated Lists of Deceased

On Friday, April 18th I mailed updated lists of the deceased to the Department. The lists should arrive in a day or so. Each set included an alphabetically-arranged list, a numerically cross-referenced list, and a list of the unidentified by body number. This same set was also mailed to Lorton for his planning purposes.

Note: Received Two Vets to Include Include in Paragraph One

The Info Office just called. It appears that the media has already started to make inquiries in view of the Morning News item. The Info Office has stated that at least 10 media requests have called in the last few hours including AP, UPI, NBC, ABC etc. and the Office will want, if any, revised info can be disseminated to the press. Please advise.

4 ** Tuesday, April 17, 1979
The Morning News, Wilmington, Del.

PAGE ONE

Moving bodies of cult victims poses many problems

By SHARM MATTHEWS
Press Service

The toughest challenge facing the firm hired to haul more than 900 Jonestown bodies from Dover Air Force Base to California is how to avoid losing out of there.

"We had to sit down and research and figure out the best method, the safest, most controlled way," says William A. Larmore.

His firm, Larmore Moving Systems of Bakersfield, will be paid about $6,000 in Peoples Temple assets to move the remaining bodies of the 913 cult members who died in Guyana. Although no date has been announced, officials hope to start moving the victims on April 26. The bodies were flown to Dover Air Force Base following the Nov. 18 murder-suicide.

"We're not going to lose one," Larmore said bluntly. Each casket will be numbered, and the firm will know exactly where it is placed at one of the 11 or 12 vaults.

Larmore was recommended by the Inglewood group that fought in court to have the bodies shipped to California and buried with dignity near where most of their relatives live. The firm's proposal, the group said, showed "concern, sensitivity and sense of responsibility."

Since the firm was chosen, it has been plagued by calls from the media and has become the target of what Larmore called "publicity" from people hoping that the bodies would contaminate Larmore trucks.

"People are asking, 'Are you nuts?' 'Are you serious when you're over?'" complained Larmore. He said each corpse is in a preservative casket and poses no health hazard.

When the moving gets underway the bodies will be loaded on two 18-wheel trucks with about 450 on a run.

Cops carrying breathing bodies

now numbering 256, will move first. They will head for the Oakland Army Base, departing at six-to eight-hour intervals. Larmore said. In an interview yesterday. One truckload will go to the Los Angeles area.

There, the bodies may be claimed by next of kin. Relatives who show they are unable to pay the cost of disposing of the bodies will be reimbursed up to $340 from Peoples Temple funds as part of a decision handed down last month by a California judge.

After the identified bodies have been shipped, the firm will wait for a week to 10 days before shipping the unidentified remains — now numbering 249, many of them children — to one or two California cemeteries, where they will be buried two to a grave.

Larmore, 37, who at age 22 took over the moving firm started by his grandfather in 1920, has been involved in large and complicated moves — before. His firm has

See MOVERS—Page 4, Col. 1

Continued from Page 1

moved up to 120 families at a time and has shipped space hardware and artworks.

But this move may be his most complicated. Those involved include the U.S. State Department, which has custody of the bodies; the Emergency Relief Committee, which authored the plan largely accepted by the California court and the U.S. Defense Department, which is now keeping the bodies in a Dover hangar.

"We are concerned with being able to perform with a minimum amount of disruption, and every precaution is being made to do so," Larmore said. As a result, he refuses to detail all of his plans.

But Larmore says each truck will have two operators, with drivers picked based on dependability and safe-ty record. The trucks will be equipped with two-way radios. Drivers also call in periodically to the home office.

During stops, trucks will be kept in secured areas, and none will be left unattended. Police assistance might be used in each locale, Larmore said.

If a truck is involved in a wreck, it can be replaced within eight hours through an affiliate, Larmore said.

GUYANA TRANSPORTATION MANIFEST

Trailer No. _____ Bill of Lading No. _____

	Body No.	Name
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
45		
47		
48		
49		
50		

Van Operator _____

Tearmore Inc. Representative _____

U.S. Dept. of State Representative _____

Date Depart Dover A.F.Base, Delaware _____

Date Arrive in California _____

- GUYANA TRANSPORTATION MANIFEST -